

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall No. 83, recorded on Friday, March 21, 2002 at 3:00 a.m., I was unable to cast my floor vote due to miscommunication with floor staff. This vote was on H. Con. Res. 104, expressing the support and appreciation of the Nation for the President and the members of the Armed Forces who are participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. As my colleagues can attest, I am a strong support of our Armed Forces and of our operations in Iraq. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "aye" to Rollcall Vote No. 83.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the House Leadership for introducing this important resolution. Today, we recognize, support, and commend our brave service men and women for their dedication, for their sacrifice, and for their supreme love of country. We thank and honor those who serve on behalf of liberty and freedom.

Our Nation has committed our military to defend the world from grave danger and to assure the security for all nations by disarming Saddam Hussein. For more than 4½ months, this brutal dictator has ignored the clear resolve of the United Nations and the world that Iraq immediately disarm. In the face of Iraq's continued defiance of the international community, the United States and our allies have been forced to act. It had been my ardent hope that, through forceful diplomacy and clear resolve, we would have avoided this war. However, in the face of Saddam Hussein's history of deception, the U.S. and its broad range of international partners have decided now is the time to act to disarm Iraq. In the coming days and weeks, it will be critically important for our Nation to support and pray for the safety of our troops in this time of uncertainty.

Following the terrorist attacks of September 11th, I participated in countless classified briefings and hearings before the House Intelligence Committee. We know that Iraq has continued to build weapons of mass destruction, has energized its missile program, and is investing in biological weapons. Saddam Hussein is determined to obtain weapons-grade material to develop nuclear weapons. His biological weapons program is more advanced than before the Gulf War. All of these actions have been done in flagrant violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. The Iraqi people have not brought this situation upon themselves, but rather the blame is on the brutal dictatorship of Saddam Hussein.

Apart from the current military action, our focus must be on working with the world community to rebuild Iraq following the military actions. As we move forward in Iraq and in other crisis spots around the world, I am hopeful that the United States will continue to strengthen its unity with the international community.

Today, we stand firmly behind our Armed Forces. We thank the brave men and women who risk their lives to keep our Nation free and safe. We offer our respect, our supreme gratitude, and the promise that we shall not forget your bravery and your sacrifice. We are proud of you. May God bless you and keep you safe.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 104, a resolution expressing the support and appreciation of the Nation for the President and the members of the Armed Forces who are participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many people have questioned the need for the United States to remove Saddam Hussein or the method in which this matter has been handled by the Bush administration. However, the time has come to end the debate and turn our complete and unified attention to supporting our troops.

I know there is no more important decision than whether or not to send our sons and daughters into armed conflict. Our President has made the decision to commit troops and with pride and resolve, the Congress stands solidly behind our troops. We will do whatever we can to make certain that they have everything needed for a quick resolution and their safe return home.

Mr. Speaker, the thoughts and prayers of all Americans are with the nearly 300,000 brave men and women who are currently putting their own lives in danger to carry out the orders of the Commander in Chief. Every one of us is proud of their service and their courage. We pray for their safety tonight and in days to come, and offer comfort and support to their families and loved ones.

HONORING LEADERS OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD EASTERN REGION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2003

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Susan Herrmann, Kealy Salomon, Perry Colwell, Caroline Hoen, Carol Massey, Freddie Hodges, Kay Scott, Jamie Ann Sabino and Nancy Williams, who have all served ably as leaders of Planned Parenthood Eastern Region.

As members of the Eastern Region Executive Committee, they have volunteered innumerable hours, their energy and passion toward engaging the volunteers and affiliate staff of the Eastern Region with Planned Parenthood's mission. Planned Parenthood's regional councils represent a critical component of Planned Parenthood's political grassroots in the battle to protect and expand Planned Parenthood's mission.

With Planned Parenthood facing its most difficult hour, withstanding constant attacks from the Radical Right, the Eastern Region Council will play a critical role in support and inspiring the staff and volunteers of the Region.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Planned Parenthood Federation, I extend my deep appreciation and admiration to Judy Tabb, Susan

Herrmann, Kealy Salomon, Perry Colwell, Caroline Hoen, Carol Massey, Freddie Hodges, Kay Scott, Jamie Ann Sabino and Nancy Williams for their leadership in protecting the reproductive rights of all.

SACRAMENTO REGIONAL COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2003

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District's noteworthy 30th Anniversary. Its regional approach to wastewater management has ensured a higher quality of life for Sacramento residents and our neighbors downstream. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting this important milestone in protecting the environment and serving the public.

Three decades ago, Sacramento-area leaders, realizing the tremendous potential for the area's growth, joined forces to form the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD). Back then, this represented a unique approach to the conveyance, treatment and discharge of wastewater in the Sacramento region. Until that time (and until the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant was completed in 1983), wastewater treatment and disposal were handled by up to 22 individual treatment plants, many located along the Sacramento and American rivers. These small treatment plants, some built in the 1950's and '60s, had become enveloped by neighborhoods and urban population centers. As the region's population grew, Sacramento County clearly needed a more comprehensive approach to wastewater management.

Sound planning, vision, and the Clean Water Act of 1972 helped the District stay ahead of the rapid changes fueled by Sacramento's expanding population. This massive growth was factored into plans for a regional wastewater treatment plant, which serves the needs of most of the region's residential, business and industrial customers. Construction of the treatment plant and SRCSD's extensive interceptor system were made possible by federal Clean Water Act funds, as well as state and local funding to finance construction.

Thirty years later, SRCSD represents a truly successful regionalized sanitation effort that serves an entire urbanized area with efficient and high quality wastewater treatment services. As a result, the entire region benefits from cleaner waterways, sending all its wastewater to one point of discharge, away from important drinking water intake locations. Mr. Speaker, as Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District celebrates its 30th Anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to its significant accomplishments and dedication to excellent public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2003

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 83, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."